

June 25, 2005

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# The Advisor

**Official Weekly Command Information Report for the Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq**

## Dealing with the aftermath

MNSTC-I engineers survey site damage following simultaneous insurgent attacks





June 25, 2005

# MNSTC-I

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**Cover: An Iraqi police commando surveys the remains of a car bomb that forced its way into a commando compound June 20.**

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

## Leaders affirm commitment in Iraq

**By Donna Miles**

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The upcoming international summit on support for Iraq sends "an important signal for people to hear loud and clear," President Bush said today during a June 20 White House news conference.

Bush said the summit, to be jointly hosted by the European Union and the United States, demonstrates that countries are putting past differences over Iraq aside so they can work together to support its progress. "There may have been past differences over Iraq, but as we move forward, there is a need for the world to work together so that Iraq's democracy will succeed," he said.

Iraq remains dangerous "because there are cold-blooded killers that want to kill Americans or kill innocent Iraqis in order to try to drive us out of Iraq," Bush said.

Yet progress continues on the political front and in preparing the Iraqis to provide their own defense, he said.

"The report from the field is that while it's tough, more and more Iraqis are becoming battle-hardened and trained to defend themselves," Bush said. "That's exactly the strategy that's going to work, and it is going to work. And we will complete this mission for the sake of world peace."

The president joined European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso and European Council President-in-Office Jean-Claude Juncker in sharing with reporters the details of their meeting today.

In addition to Iraq, the leaders discussed progress in Afghanistan and the broader Middle East, and the need "to continually support democratic movements," Bush said.

The leaders discussed the threat terrorism poses to that peace and agreed to continue working together to counter it, Bush said. "We talked about the need to continue to share information, to make sure that we cut off money flows to terrorist groups and prevent terrorist organizations from attaining weapons of mass destruction," he said.

They also reaffirmed their commitment not to tolerate Iran's development of a nuclear weapon and to work together to support Africa and the developing world.

The United States and members of the European Union share common values and aspirations in a partnership Bush said has helped build stability and keep peace in Europe.

"The United States continues to support a strong European Union as a partner in spreading freedom and democracy and security and prosperity throughout the world," he said. "And democratic nations are nations that will help us keep the peace."

**"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."**

— Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

# Coalition engineers survey damage from coordinated attacks on Iraqi force sites

By U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Two days after insurgents launched simultaneous attacks on two Iraqi Security Force sites, engineers from the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq were at the scenes to survey damage and assess the cost of repairs.

The Al Bayaa Police station, home also to the Al Dora and Hyalimil patrols, and a compound for the Iraqi Police Commandos' 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, came under fire before sunrise June 20.



U.S. Army 1st Lt. Eric McGowen, a platoon leader with the 170th Military Police Company, and U.S. Air Force Maj. Dwayne McCullion discuss the damage caused by a June 20 attack on an Iraqi Police station.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

were able to stop one of the vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices about a block before the entrance to the site, where it exploded. The other VBIED made it to the entrance, but didn't make it inside before detonating in front of a civilian market and residential area. Three rocket-propelled grenades hit the station building.

Five Iraqi police officers were killed and several wounded in the attack, according to intelligence reports. Four Apache helicopters that responded to help fight the anti-Iraq forces were damaged. Four AIF were killed and 24 captured, including four identified as Syrians, reports stated.



A U.S. Soldier stands watch near the entrance to an Iraqi Police station where one of two vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices detonated June 20, causing significant damage to a central Baghdad residential and market area. The other VBIED exploded about two blocks away.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

There were also 24 civilians wounded, said U.S. Army 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Eric McGowen, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon Leader with the 170<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company from Fort Lewis, Wash. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon works in partnership with the Iraqi Police units at the site.

"I'm extremely proud of the IPs here; they stood their ground and fought back. When it started, they immediately ran to the roof and scattered around the site to fight," McGowen said. "Six months ago, that might not have happened. But they have good leadership, leaders that the men want to follow."

Another significant aspect to the fight, McGowen said, was the participation of local residents. In the thick of the attack, "locals were calling the station to report the locations of insurgents in their area," McGowen said, noting that the station commander has a good relationship with the local community. Fifteen insurgents were captured.

The police station itself received minor damage, said U.S. Air Force Maj. Dwayne McCullion, a police engineer with MNSTC-I's J-7 section. The bulk of the destruction was absorbed by the civilian area, he said.

During the June 22 site visit, MNSTC-I and station leaders discussed moving the entrance away from the residential and market area. McCullion said he and others involved will start the process of hiring a contractor to redesign and relocate the entry control point. They'll also beef up the force protection, repairing and supplementing the existing T-walls, jersey and Hesco barriers, he said.



Two young Iraqi girls watch as Coalition and Iraqi forces survey damage to their neighborhood.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

See 'Surveys'

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## Surveys

From page 3

McCullion and U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Steve Blalock, the deputy J-7, estimate the cost at about \$500,000.

"We want to get the civilians away from the line of fire," Blalock said. "But at the same time, the police officers need to have visibility and access to the public. That's how they maintain a good relationship. Too many T-walls could stop that."

Police officers from at least two other stations responded to the attack sites to assist officers and commandos in repelling the insurgents, McCullion said.

At the commando site, the first of two VBIEDs exploded in front of the main entrance, causing enough damage to the gate to allow a second VBIED to make its way into the compound. In a barrage of fire from commandos inside, the second vehicle detonated near the main building. The explosion demolished a set of temporary trailers used by contractors, several vehicles, and left cracks and blown-out windows in the building.

A commando who toured the site with McCullion and Blalock said commandos fired on both VBIEDs throughout the attack. One commando and four Iraqi police officers were killed, with 15 commandos and two Iraqi police officers wounded, according to intelligence reports. Two of the attackers were killed and 15 captured, four identified as Syrians, the reports said.

Just as nearby residents assisted at the Al Bayaa Police station attack, local citizens also provided information about the commando compound attackers. An Iraqi citizen called in to report seeing about 10 AIF armed with AK-47 assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades running away from the compound and into several houses in the area. Coalition and Iraqi forces conducted a raid, capturing eight



A group of Iraqi Police commandos look over a piece of what was left from one of two car bombs that hit their compound June 20. One of the vehicles made it into the site perimeter before exploding, raining debris throughout the area and blowing out windows.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

suspects they found hiding in closets with loaded weapons, the reports said.

Pieces of the second vehicle were left scattered throughout the compound and on the roof of the building. MNSTC-I already had a contractor at the site, working on an \$8 million renovation project, McCullion said.

"We've already talked to the contractor, we'll have them start repairing the road to the site and putting up more T-walls and jersey barriers," McCullion said. The cost of repairing and improving the entry road should be about \$20,000, he and Blalock estimated.



An Iraqi Police commando and U.S. Air Force Maj. Dwayne McCullion look over a piece of the car bomb that hit a commando compound June 20.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell



The explosion of a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device that made its way into an Iraqi Police Commando compound demolished several vehicles.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

The U.S. Army's 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 37<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division works with the commandos and had started delivering materials to help repair force protection barriers on the same day MNSTC-I officials visited the site.

The Iraqi Ministry of Interior and its engineers partner with MNSTC-I on a number of renovation projects at police and commando sites, McCullion said. At four commando bases, for instance, MOI has the lead in hiring contractors and directing the work. MNSTC-I facilitates when needed, McCullion added.

# Special Police Forces Academy graduates first class

**By U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell**

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – An idea seeded last fall to provide additional, comprehensive training to Ministry of Interior forces came to fruition June 23 with the graduation of 96 Police Commandos from the Special Police Forces Academy.

“We want to thank you for everything,” said Iraqi Col. Nehed, commandant of the academy, to the Coalition officials who helped get the school started and the U.S. Army and civilian liaisons who taught the first class. “We are ready for fighting the terrorists, ready to protect our homes and our people.”

The goal is to have the academy completely operated by Iraqis, said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Martin Spann, a police commando adviser with the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq’s Civilian Police Assistance Training Team (CPATT).

“Of this first class, more than half will be back as instructors for the next class,” Spann said. “Our IPLOs (Iraqi Police Liaison Officers) will stand back and monitor. The instructors will have gone through it, so they’ll know what’s expected.”



**Iraqi Police commandos demonstrate skills they learned at the Special Police Forces Academy. Their faces are blurred to protect their identities.**

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

make their way through the academy.

Spann and others recognized a need for the academy when they noticed that police forces were having a difficult time providing consistent, standardized training to their men. Although blocks of training time were set aside, operations frequently took priority. They also found that many of the junior officers had no military training.

The plan for a basic training academy started coming together around December, with planners looking for a place that would both house and instruct students. They also started writing curriculum, gathering supplies and setting standards. The courses included instruction in tactics, firearms, first aid and human rights.



**An Iraqi Police commando proudly waves the flag of the new Special Police Forces Academy during its first graduation ceremony.**

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

Iraqi Gen.

Adnnan, commander of MOI forces, gave his approval and appointed Nehed to head the academy.

“We all worked together on a program that fit the needs of the special police forces and met CPATT requirements,” Spann said.

Adnnan dedicated a portion of a former U.S. forward operating base that had been turned over to Iraqi control for the academy. Contractors renovated a large building to accommodate the school, with rooms for both instruction and living quarters.

Spann said he was very impressed with the motivation and initiation of the first set of students. At the start of the course, they were divided into four companies – each designated with its own color. Two days into the training, each company had its own flag, designed by students, and a flag was created for the academy.

“They did that all on their own, we didn’t tell them to do that,” Spann said. “They’ve just blown me away; everyone has done one heck of a great job.”

After the graduation ceremony, which included a demonstration of skills learned, Nehed promised that he would make Spann and others involved – CPATT adviser U.S. Army Col. James Coffman and U.S. Army Maj. Paul Johnson, for instance – proud of the academy.

“I have no reservations that this academy will continue,” Spann said. “And that they’ll continue to do very well.”



# Early-morning raids snare 11 terrorists

## 256th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi soldiers and Coalition forces, working together and independently, captured 11 known terrorists in a series of early-morning raids in central and west Baghdad June 17. One other terror suspect was also taken into custody.

The largest operation was conducted by soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division shortly after midnight in Abu Ghraib. Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment, attached to the 256th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd U.S. Army Infantry Division, assisted as a quick reaction force.

Three hours after the raid began, the Iraqi soldiers had detained and positively identified two terror cell leaders, a safe house owner, a former Ba'ath party member, and a man wanted for kidnapping and murdering Iraqi soldiers, police and civilians.

The Iraqi soldiers also apprehended a major criminal in the Abu Ghraib district, three lesser criminals and a man believed to have participated in an attack on an Iraqi police station in the area. All of the men were taken into custody for questioning.

U.S. Army Capt. James Alexander, current operations officer for 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment, said the 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division was in and out of the area in one hour and in the end, the mission was well planned and executed.

"They moved onto target accurately, with deliberate and precise actions, and they knew what they were going after," said Alexander.

In another early-morning operation, soldiers from 2nd Bat-

talion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division seized a known member and financier of a foreign terror cell in the Harbiya district of central Baghdad. The man is also thought to have killed religious leaders in Baghdad's International Zone. Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, 256th BCT, provided a search team and security on the outer cordon.

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Dan Davis is a patrol leader with Company B, 1st Battalion, 156th Armor Regiment, attached to 2-156th Inf. Davis said the unit provided a protective circle around the perimeter while the 2nd Battalion, 1st Brigade interacted with the people. He explained that the Iraqi people have grown to respect their own Army and would rather see them than foreign forces.

"You could see the confidence in the Iraqi soldiers. Once they realized the detainee was a target, they (performed) deliberately," said Davis.

When they successfully captured a target, Davis and his soldiers could see the positive attitudes and motivation in their faces.

"These Iraqi Army soldiers are our new heroes," said Davis. "They are patriots of Iraq who decided enough was enough."

Later, around 3 a.m., Task Force Baghdad Soldiers conducted another raid to capture members of a known terror cell in the Khadra district of central Baghdad. One member of the cell was killed, and another was taken into custody for questioning. They also recovered a weapons cache.

"We are gaining the initiative by keeping the upper hand, which will ensure the enemy remains off-balance. Iraq's armed forces are well underway to taking the lead in defeating the insurgency," said U.S. Army Maj. William Borel, 256th BCT chief of current operations.

**Find the potential  
Improvised  
Explosive Device.**

**Answer: E  
All of the above.**



0006

IEDs KILL



# Iraqi firefighters train to save lives

## 443rd Civil Affairs Battalion Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – When improvised explosive devices hit, Baghdad's city firefighters rush to the scene, hastily loading casualties into their trucks or ambulances and rushing them to a hospital – with little or no treatment provided.

It's not because the firefighters don't want to help save lives, but rather a lack of training in basic life support.

That's changing now, with Task Force Baghdad Soldiers providing training in emergency life-saving procedures to the city's first responders.

Recognizing the need for such training, U.S. Army Capt. Michael Gould, a physician assistant on the Public Health Team, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 443rd Civil Affairs Battalion, developed a comprehensive training program with the assistance of his medics – U.S. Army Sgt. Karolina Lojewska, U.S. Army Pfc. Vashon Watson, and U.S. Army Sgt. Alberto Torres.

The civil affairs Soldiers faced some initial challenges. With the cultural and language barriers, the Soldiers needed to find Iraqi publishers who could translate the American instruction manuals. In addition, the training equipment and the basic life-saving bags needed to be purchased on the local economy.

Everything came together when an Iraqi doctor responded to calls for help. She simply wanted to help her people, especially if it meant saving their lives. The Soldiers were able to start the first class at the end of May.

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Michael Didonato, who works for the Government Support Team, was given the responsibility of getting the firefighters into the Green Zone. He also trained the firefighters on how to properly use the equipment on fire trucks donated by Japan.

The firefighters were trained on tasks such as CPR, trauma assessment, bleeding and shock control, airway management, splinting fractures and immobilizing the pa-

tient. Evaluations followed the classroom instruction.

"After a while, they started to understand the concept of the ABC's—airway, breathing, circulation," said Lojewska. "They are starting to follow our rules and guidelines and perform a proper assessment on their patients. And that is our goal.

Once they completed the training, the firefighters received a certificate from the Public Health Team and a fully supplied basic life support bag. Supply shortages sometimes mean the equipment in their BLS bags is all they have on their ambulances or fire trucks.

The Public Health Team has graduated three classes so far, totaling 70 firemen. On each graduation day, Gould reminds the firemen of what an important job they have.

"Back in the rear, we have heard about the brave Iraqi firefighters who risk their lives to save their own people," Gould said. "I am glad we can help out and do this training."



**Iraqi firefighters learn how to take a blood pressure during the Basic Life Support Class.**

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Karolina Lojewska



**Iraqi firefighters trained in Basic Life Support run toward a casualty during a training exercise in the International Zone.**

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Karolina Lojewska

An average of 30 firefighters from all of Baghdad's districts show up for each class. Their chief comes with them to the first class and their graduation, and hopes to have all his firefighters trained by the end of the year.

"We are grateful to the American people, the U.S. Army and all the Coalition forces for helping out my people," said the fire official, who wished to remain anonymous.

# Al Karar soldiers uncover large arms caches

**By U.S. Army Capt. Peter Molineaux**

Multi-National Corps - Iraq

SOUTHEAST Iraq – Soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division, also known as the “Al Karar” Brigade, conducted “Operation White Sword,” uncovering large caches of ammunition and explosives in the central region of Iraq’s Wasit Province.

Operation White Sword was a battalion-level cordon and search mission designed to search target areas that were known to contain weapons caches and arrest any suspected members of anti-Iraq forces that might be operating in the area.

The soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi Battalion deployed to the White Sword objective area early June 21, immediately seizing targets previously identified by the Al Karar Brigade’s Iraqi Reconnaissance & Surveillance Team (IRST). The area was adjacent to the Tigris River, approximately 20 kilometers



Ammunition and explosives from caches in the White Sword objective area are collected before demolition.

Photo by 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division Interpreter



Soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi Battalion begin removing ammunition from a weapons cache in the White Sword objective area.

Photo by 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division Interpreter

northwest of the city of An Numaniyah. After sealing off the area with traffic control points, the soldiers searched area homes and fields.

The searches resulted in the discovery of extensive ammunition caches containing more than 500 mortars of various calibers, including 120mm and 82 mm rounds; missile tubes and hand grenades were also found, buried in fields across the objective area. The caches also included a variety of smaller and more specialized explosive materials, including detonation cord and fuses.

**See ‘Al Karar’**

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## Iraqi Reconnaissance, Surveillance Teams produce results

**By U.S. Army Maj. Michael Eller**

Multi-National Corps – Iraq

SOUTHEAST Iraq – Iraqi Reconnaissance and Surveillance Teams from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Army Division, also known as the “Al Karar” Brigade, are making a positive impact in the fight against Iraq’s insurgency.

Over the past three weeks, IRST teams completed two target folders and handed them over to the Iraqi brigade for mission planning and execution. The first mission folder resulted in the apprehension of four individuals suspected of weapons smuggling and distribution, along with a cache of weapons and ammunition.

The second mission folder, designated “Operation White Sword, in-

volved a 3<sup>rd</sup> Iraqi Army Division battalion. After receiving a target folder briefing from the IRST team, the brigade intelligence and operations sections immediately issued a warning order to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi Army Battalion.

Formal school training prepares IRSTs to contribute to successful operations. Once the Al Karar Brigade’s IRST soldiers completed their schooling, they were relocated to another base within MNF-I’s area of operations for security purposes. A Coalition Military Training Team (MiTT) adviser is co-located with the IRST teams to provide training and mission support.

Through the MiTT adviser, tactical human intelligence teams provide assistance in improving IRST capabilities. Every week, the brigade staff,

along with MiTT advisers, meet with the IRST teams to review potential targets and the current target progress. It is during these meetings that the IRST team gives briefings on completed target folders.

IRST target folders are critical to successful mission planning and execution. At a minimum, a target folder will include 10-digit grid coordinates, IRST observation notes, routes to and from target areas, and target sketches. A target folder may include digital photos, video surveillance, additional information from sources developed by the IRST, and other information helpful in planning and executing a combat mission.

Al Karar Brigade’s IRST teams have completed four target folders and are currently working on two additional targets.



"The success of this mission was a direct result of the training and experience that the men of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion have been able to acquire during the last several months of operations," said Iraqi Army Maj. Baraa Mohammad, 2nd Battalion commander, through an interpreter. "This cordon and search mission is the third one we have executed on the battalion level. Every time we do this, the ability of the soldiers to do what is expected of them increases greatly, as does their confidence in accomplishing the mission."

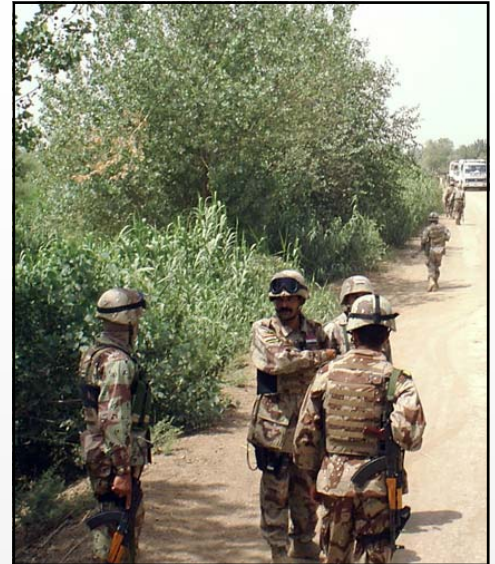
"What was most impressive about this operation was that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was able to receive a warning order, plan a battalion-level mission and execute it within 12 hours," said U.S. Army Maj. James Davis, a senior adviser assigned to training the Iraqi battalion. "I would attribute this to the quality of the senior Iraqi leadership and their ability – with a minimum of AST (adviser) involvement – to construct a comprehensive cordon and search plan that could be disseminated quickly to the soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion."

In addition to the IRST element, the mission was supported by other members of the Multi-National Division Central - South, including an

American Tactical Human Intelligence (THT) team and a U.S. Marine ANGLICO team. The U.S. Marines were on hand to provide medical evacuation and combat air support in case it was needed by the Coalition adviser support teams. A Ukrainian explosives ordnance disposal team also assisted the operation by destroying the ammunition and explosives found in the White Sword objective area.

"We were able to locate such a large quantity of weapons and keep them out of the hands of the terrorists because of the efforts of the brigade's IRST elements, and the actionable intelligence they were able to provide," Baraa added. "We would also like to thank the other Coalition forces, such as the Marines and American intelligence elements, that contributed to the success of this mission. Of course, there was also effective coordination on the ground between the (Iraqi) battalion leadership and the American ASTs."

"Certainly this mission is a testament to how far the soldiers and leaders of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion have come just during the last several months," Davis said. "That they were able to conduct an operation like this, so quickly and so well, speaks volumes about their determination to destroy the forces that threaten their country."



NCOs of the 2nd Battalion confer on a road inside the White Sword objective area before moving on to another location. Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Dennis P. Ewing

The Al Karar Brigade is currently headquartered southeast of Baghdad in the Wasit Province. The Al Karar Brigade's AST is comprised primarily of Soldiers from the U.S. Army Reserve's 98th Institutional Training Division based out of Rochester, NY.

Many of the ASTs have been with the Iraqi brigade for more than eight months. They trained the Iraqi soldiers throughout the eight-week Basic Combat Training course, which finished the first week of February. The 98th Division was mobilized to support the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq in 2004.

## The Advisor

### WANTED: Stories and photos

The Advisor would like to tell every story within MNSTC-I, but we cannot be everywhere at once; we depend on you to assist us.

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Or, send your stories, quality photos or comments to:

[pao@mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:pao@mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil)



# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Local tips break up terror cell

BAGHDAD – Two Iraqi citizens helped Iraqi Security Forces and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers uncover a large weapons cache in the capital June 20 and capture three men who were planning a terrorist attack.

A resident living in the Ghazaliyah district of central Baghdad told Task Force Baghdad Soldiers about a group of terrorists planning an attack on a coalition checkpoint in Abu Ghraib.

The citizen offered to go with the Soldiers and point out exactly where the plotters lived.

The Soldiers investigated the tip and took two targeted terror suspects and another suspect into custody for questioning.

Later in the day, Iraqi Army soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, acting on a tip from a resident living in the Adamiya district of central Baghdad, found a weapons cache. The cache contained three mortar rounds, 13 projectiles of various types, 20 pounds of solid rocket fuel, two rockets and an anti-tank mine. The Iraqi soldiers also found an assortment of blasting caps, fuses and wire at the site.

In other combat operations, Iraqi Security Forces and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers captured five more terror suspects, including another targeted individual, and found two additional weapons caches.

The largest operation of the day netted four terror suspects, bomb-making materials, triggering devices, one propane cylinder and various fake identification cards. Iraqi forces from the Ministry of the Interior's Wolf Brigade and soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment conducted simultaneous raids on five targets in the Karb de Gla district of south Baghdad during the operation. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## In remembrance

Iraqi Col.  
Mahmood  
Waleed



Iraqi Col. Mahmood Waleed, a logistics liaison officer between the Iraqi Ministry of Defense and the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq, was killed in the May 7 car bombing at Al Tehreer Square. His son, Mustafa, 14, was also killed. Waleed, who worked with the MNSTC-I joint headquarters section, is survived by his wife and four daughters.

## Joint operation brings in four AIF

MUFREK – Soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Army Battalion, together with the 2nd Battalion, 69th U.S. Armor Regiment, successfully cordoned and searched the town of Mufrek, detaining four individuals June 15 in an operation that was planned and conducted by the Iraqi Army with Coalition forces acting as advisers. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Terrorists suffer setback; lose personnel, safe houses

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Security Forces and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers, working together and independently, captured 52 terror suspects in a series of combat operations carried out in east and south Baghdad June 17.

The largest operation of the day was conducted by the Iraqi Army's Wolf Brigade. Starting at 1:30 a.m., the Iraqi soldiers raided 28 targeted locations in the Hadar and Zubaida districts of south Baghdad and captured 40 suspected terrorists.

Later in the day, members of the Iraqi Special Police Commandos teamed up with an Iraqi Intervention Forces Battalion and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers to deny terrorist access to safe houses and weapons cache sites in east Baghdad. The joint Iraqi-U.S. forces teams apprehended seven suspects, including two targeted terrorists.

Earlier, a Task Force Baghdad patrol near a checkpoint in west Baghdad was attacked by a suicide car bomber. The car bomb detonated 50 yards short of the checkpoint, killing the driver of the car. No one else was injured in the blast.

Iraqi Police and Task Force Baghdad units also disabled five roadside bombs at five different locations in and around Baghdad before terrorists could use them. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)



Soldiers prepare to enter a terrorist safe house in east Baghdad. The joint operation was led by Iraqi Police Commandos and Iraqi Intervention Forces, and netted seven terror suspects, including two specifically-targeted individuals. U.S. Army photo

## Combined patrol discovers VBIED

KIRKUK – United States Soldiers of Task Force 2-116 Armor conducted a routine patrol with Azadi Iraqi Police officers and discovered a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device June 22. The patrol cordoned off the area and an Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal team arrived to inspect the vehicle and removed 19 artillery rounds of various sizes.



# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Iraqi, Coalition forces foil bombings

BAGHDAD — Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers conducted a series of combat operations June 18 to capture targeted terrorists and seize weapons and contraband.

The Iraqi and Coalition forces searched four loca-

tions in central and south Baghdad and apprehended five suspects, including a specifically-identified terror cell financier.

Task Force Baghdad Soldiers also arrested an Iraqi national in west Baghdad at 1:30 a.m. When the Soldiers searched the suspect, they found a rocket-propelled grenade sighting device in his possession.

In other combat operations, Coalition forces watching a house suspected of being a bomb-making facility saw a man enter the home, acting suspiciously. The Soldiers surrounded the house and searched it.

Inside they found a variety of devices used to make car bombs and roadside bombs, including vehicle foot pedal switches, mechanical timers, switches and relays. The unit took the suspect into custody for questioning.

Later, Task Force Baghdad Soldiers in southwest Baghdad found a roadside bomb alongside a major highway. The Soldiers blocked traffic to keep people away from the bomb.

A team of explosives experts discovered two 130mm rounds with a remote-controlled detonator, and safely disabled the bomb.

Another Task Force Baghdad patrol traveling in west Baghdad spotted a



Electric timers are often used as safety devices on roadside bombs. Task Force Baghdad Soldiers confiscated the timers from a house used as a bomb-making facility.

U.S. Army photo

burlap bag with unknown items inside lying on the side of a major highway. The Soldiers cordoned off the area to prevent anyone from getting hurt and called in an explosives team to detonate what was identified as an improvised explosive device. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## Morning operations net three suspects

BAGHDAD — Iraqi soldiers from the 1st Battalion, Wolf Brigade and Task Force Baghdad captured two car-bomb suspects and a third individual during three raids and cordon-and-search operations in the capital June 19.

The Wolf Brigade took the first car-bombing suspect into custody just after midnight while raiding a south Baghdad house in the Bayaa neighborhood.

Later, an Iraqi citizen offered to lead Task Force Baghdad Soldiers to the house of a man targeted for participating in a car bomb attack on Coalition forces earlier in the week. The citizen took the Soldiers to a house in the Tamariyah district of south Baghdad. No one was home when the Soldiers checked the house; but as they were leaving, the citizen recognized the suspect's car driving down the street. The Soldiers stopped the vehicle and took the terror suspect into custody for questioning.

Shortly after 3 a.m., Task Force Baghdad Soldiers conducted another cordon-and-search operation in west Baghdad. The Soldiers detained one suspect who had 13 boxes of anti-U.S. propaganda in his house. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## Information leads Iraqi Army to AIF

SEPTIA — Soldiers of the 1st Iraqi Army Battalion and the 2nd Battalion, 69th U.S. Armor Regiment conducted a raid of six targeted houses in the town of Septia June 12. The targets were based on reports from the local populace and the raid was planned by the Iraqi battalion. This raid was in

response to numerous improvised explosive device and mortar attacks near the Diyala River Bridge. The Iraqi battalion and Coalition forces confiscated several AK-47s, ammunition, cell phones and detained eight personnel. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## AIF using all means to kill, destroy

BAGHDAD — Iraqi police have become increasingly wary of reports of vehicles and bodies found in and around the city as anti-Iraq forces prepare and deploy improvised explosive devices using dead bodies and disabled vehicles as cover, according to a report.

In many cases, these reports have led to ambushes or bombing incidents involving investigating police officers, soldiers and civilians. One week ago, police responded to a report of a deceased body in a vehicle. Upon arrival at the scene, police noticed the blindfolded victim had his hands tied behind his back, with a gunshot wound to his head. Police immediately observed explosives in the back seat of the vehicle which were remotely detonated as the police attempted to seek cover.

One police officer was wounded in the attack.

## ISF stands ground against car bomber

TIKRIT — Iraqi soldiers and police officers guarding the gate at Camp Danger stood their ground against an attacking suicide car bomber June 19.

The driver of the vehicle-borne improvised explosive device attempted to follow a food delivery truck into the Iraqi Army compound. When the VBIED failed to stop, Iraqi soldiers and police opened fire on the vehicle. The small arms fire caused the VBIED to detonate.

As a result of the attack, two Iraqi soldiers, one police officer, and one Iraqi civilian were killed. Eight soldiers and five Iraqi civilians received unspecified injuries.

# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## ISF, Coalition forces nab suspects, bombs

BAGHDAD — Iraqi and Coalition forces captured 16 terror suspects, seized weapons and foiled bomb attacks against a police station and four other targets in and around Baghdad June 21.

The largest operation of the day was conducted by Iraqi Police in the Bab Al Sheikh district of central Baghdad. The police took eight terror suspects into custody, and seized eight AK-47 assault rifles, one pistol and a stolen IP motorcycle.

Later, at 6:50 p.m., Task Force Baghdad Soldiers in south Baghdad caught two terror suspects detonating a roadside bomb with a remote control. The Soldiers searched the men and found \$900 dollars. Both suspects were taken into custody for questioning.

Less than 30 minutes later, Iraqi forces from the Ministry of the Interior's 3rd Public Order Battalion found

three 130-millimeter artillery rounds wired together at the Salman Pak Iraqi Police station. They disarmed the bombs and turned them over to the police.

At 7:30 p.m., Iraqi soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, acting on a tip from an Iraqi citizen, found six rocket-propelled grenade rounds and 29 rocket charges hidden in a sewer manhole.

Shortly after noon the same day, a Task Force Baghdad unit patrolling on foot in the Khadamiyah district was fired on. The patrol returned fire and hit the attacker in the leg. After treating the suspect's wounds, the patrol took him into custody for questioning.

In other combat operations, a Task Force Baghdad unit in west Baghdad captured three terrorists after a roadside bomb exploded near their convoy.

Coalition forces in southwest Bagh-

dad conducted a cordon-and-search mission at 9:40 a.m., apprehending two suspects for weapons violations. The suspects had 10 AK-47 rifles, one sub-machine gun, one hunting rifle, one pistol, nearly 800 rounds of ammunition and 14 assault rifle magazines in their house.

Task Force Baghdad Soldiers also found roadside bombs at three different locations in south and northwest Baghdad before terrorists could use them. At each site, the Soldiers blocked traffic to keep anyone from getting hurt and called in explosives teams to safely dispose of the munitions. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## Ammunition cache discovered

DALISH – Acting on a tip from an Iraqi citizen, Iraqi authorities in Tuz located a weapons cache of 517 57mm anti-aircraft shells in the village of Dalish June 22.



## Did you know?

### Iraq – The Cradle of Civilization

In ancient times the land area now known as modern Iraq was almost equivalent to Mesopotamia. The land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers (in Arabic, the Dijla and Furat, respectively), was called the 'fertile crescent'. This region is known as the Cradle of Civilization; was the birthplace of the varied civilizations that moved us from prehistory to history. An advanced civilization flourished in this region long before that of Egypt, Greece, and Rome, for it was here in about 4000BC that the Sumerian culture flourished.

The people of the Tigris and the Euphrates basin, the ancient Sumerians, using the fertile land and the abundant water supply of the area, developed sophisticated irrigation systems and created what was probably the first cereal agriculture as well as the earliest writing, cuneiform - a way of arranging impression stamped on clay by the wedge-like section of chopped-off reed stylus into wet clay. Through writing, the Sumerians were able to pass on complex agricultural techniques to successive generations; this led to

marked improvements in agricultural production. Writing evolved to keep track of property.

#### Other notable achievements:

Sumerians developed a math system based on the numeral 60, which is the basis of time in the modern world.

Sumerian society was "Matriarchal" and women had a highly respected place in society.

Banking originated in Mesopotamia (Babylonia) out of the activities of temples and palaces, which provided safe places for the storage of valuables. Initially deposits of grain were accepted and later other goods including cattle, agricultural implements, and precious metals.

Another important Sumerian legacy was the recording of literature.

- Information provided by [http://arabic-media.com/iraq\\_history.htm](http://arabic-media.com/iraq_history.htm)



# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Tip helps Soldiers seize terror suspects

BAGHDAD — An Iraqi citizen's tip helped Task Force Baghdad Soldiers capture eight terror suspects in the Risalah district of south Baghdad June 20.

Shortly after 6 p.m., the Iraqi citizen told the Soldiers he'd seen approximately 10 men running from the site of an attack on the Ministry of the Interior compound and into nearby houses, carrying AK-47 assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades.

When a patrol searched the houses, they detained eight terror suspects, many of whom were found hiding in closets holding loaded weapons. The Soldiers took the suspects into custody for questioning.

Earlier in the day, a Task Force Baghdad convoy in south Baghdad was attacked about 9 a.m. by terrorists who detonated a parked car bomb as the Soldiers drove by and then opened fire on them. The Soldiers returned fire and the terrorists broke contact.

Ten minutes later, three Iraqi Army platoons arrived to help pin the terrorists in a nearby building. The Iraqi soldiers sealed off the building, entered and captured two terrorists.

Elsewhere, a Task Force Baghdad patrol in north Baghdad stopped an ambulance with no license plates that

was being driven erratically around 12:30 a.m. June 21, past the Iraqi government-imposed curfew. They found 11 military-aged men inside, along with an AK-47 assault rifle, a 9mm pistol and two ski masks. The only medically-related item was a patient litter; the passengers admitted they had no medical training, nor did they have any paperwork on the weapons. All of the men were detained. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## Iraqi Army raids net 12 terror suspects

BAGHDAD — Iraqi and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers seized 12 suspected terrorists in a series of offensive operations conducted to neutralize, capture or kill anti-Iraqi forces in three different areas of the city June 22.

Ten minutes after midnight, Iraqi soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division began a cordon and search of homes thought to harbor terrorists in central Baghdad. In an hour-and-a-half, the Iraqi soldiers took three terror suspects into custody and seized one computer.

Six hours later, Iraqi soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division conducted a joint

cordon-and-search operation with Coalition forces in the Atifiya district of central Baghdad. The joint force apprehended six terror suspects.

At 3:10 a.m., Task Force Baghdad Soldiers raided a suspected terror cell whose members are thought to have participated in terrorist attacks in Abu Ghraib. The Soldiers captured three more terror suspects during the operation. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## New council appears on IMN talk show

KIRKUK — The Iraqi Media Network (IMN) television talk show focused on the success of the Kirkuk Provincial Council's leadership elections and how it will affect progress in Kirkuk on a June 21 broadcast. Rizgar Ali, the new Chief Council Member, said the council left the Deputy Governor position open for a Turkoman in case they decide to participate. "Our doors are always open," he said. Host Ali Hussein questioned Rizgar about several issues facing Kirkuk, including the detainee issue, progress on projects, Iraqi Displaced Persons (IDPs) and creating the new Iraqi constitution. The Kirkuk IMN affiliate attempts every week to keep the people informed about what their government officials are doing for them. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Looking back

### One year ago in Iraq

BAGHDAD - Iraq's Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi has shrugged off two death threats delivered via television and the Internet June 23, 2004, saying he remains determined to bring democracy to Iraq.

The latest threat, contained in a videotape broadcast by the Arabic-language television station Al-Arabiya, came from a previously unidentified group that called itself Group of Jihad and Resistance.

On the videotape 10 people -- dressed in black and holding weapons, their faces obscured by scarves -- stood behind an 11th person who read a statement threatening to kill Allawi and members of his government if he follows through on his threat to impose martial law if the current unrest continued.

## Passenger van hides IEDs

BAGHDAD — Coalition soldiers with the 4th Battalion, 64th U.S. Armor Regiment found a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device here and immediately secured the area June 23.

The soldiers identified a 122mm artillery round located inside a grey KIA passenger van. An Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal team arrived and dismantled the 122 mm round rigged to explode. Unknown to the soldiers, the EOD team uncovered an additional explosive threat inside the vehicle. A cleverly concealed 200-pound aviation bomb with timer was also diffused.

# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Iraqi soldiers get medical training

FOB SCUNION – Medics of Task Force 2-69 Armor trained 1<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Army Battalion medics June 17 to enhance their combat lifesaving skills in a five-day class with instruction on human anatomy, patient assessment, applying tourniquets, dressing open wounds, applying splints to fractures and initiating IV therapy. Both medic platoons plan to continue joint training in the weeks and months to come. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Iraqi army unit conducts raid

BUHRIZ – Based on a tip from an Iraqi citizen, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Iraqi Army Battalion (IAB) conducted a raid on a suspected anti-Iraq forces (AIF) cache June 21. The cache, discovered in a palm grove west of Buhriz, included more than 130 mortar rounds, 40 artillery rounds and 22 boxes of ammunition. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Iraqi Army, Police work together

TUZ – Soldiers of the 3-2-4 Iraqi Army Battalion (IAB) and the Iraqi Police (IP) conducted a joint cordon and knock June 20. The Tuz IP performed the cordon around the area and the IAB forces conducted the “knock and greet” in the area. The operation was broadcasted to the populace during the mission to explain the operation and to lower any tension. Three rifles and one hand grenade were confiscated by the IAB. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## Medics visit village

MSSAHAAG – Medics of Task Force 1-103 Armor and the 201<sup>st</sup> Iraqi Army Battalion (IAB) conducted a multi-spectrum humanitarian aid and assistance operation June 20. More than 160 patients were treated and boxes of toys, clothes, school supplies and some food items were distributed to the local populace. (Task Force Liberty Public Affairs)

## ISF respond to explosions

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Security Forces quickly responded to the scenes of multiple explosions in central Baghdad that occurred as shopkeepers were opening their businesses for early-morning customers June 23.

The blasts, which started at 7:40 a.m., killed nine and wounded more than 30. Among the dead were three Iraqi Police and six Iraqi civilians.

“The terrorists killed three policemen and six civilians today, and accomplished nothing,” said U.S. Army Maj. Ross Coffman, executive officer for 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. “The Iraqi people and government are getting stronger. Today’s attack proved the terrorists are desperate and the sovereign government of Iraq stands ready for any challenge.”

IPs cordoned off the scenes to prevent further civilian

## Iraqi equipment roll-up

**A look at some of the equipment delivered to the Iraqi Security Forces this week**

<b>Ammunition.....</b>	<b>2.7 million rounds</b>
<b>Body armor.....</b>	<b>11,070</b>
<b>AK-47s.....</b>	<b>12,410</b>
<b>Rocket-propelled grenades.....</b>	<b>375</b>
<b>Handguns.....</b>	<b>14,110</b>
<b>Landcruiser, LUV Trucks.....</b>	<b>2,000</b>

— Information provided by MNSTC-I J-4

casualties as Iraqi firefighters and explosive ordnance disposal teams rushed to the locations to extinguish fires and dismantle any unexploded ordnance.

At one site, the EOD team found 200 pounds of explosives rigged with a timing device inside a van; they quickly and safely dismantled the improvised explosive device.

The incidents are under investigation. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## Iraqi Police respond to car bombs

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Police responded to the scene of a detonated vehicle-borne improvised explosive device in central Baghdad shortly after 9 p.m. June 22.

The terrorist attack killed four IPs, four Iraqi civilians and wounded 45 others.

The VBIED detonated in front of some small shops, damaging a barber shop, a locksmith shop and an electronics store.

IPs were on the scene within minutes, along with a patrol from 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, 256th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

“Iraqi first-responders quickly arrived on the scene, took control of the situation and likely saved additional Iraqi citizens’ lives by coordinating the quick evacuation of those wounded,” said U.S. Army Maj. William Borel, 256th BCT’s chief operations officer.

An IP EOD team recovered four unexploded 155-millimeter rounds from the site, and no additional injuries resulted. The incident is under investigation. (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)



# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Iraqi, U.S. forces seize AIF, caches

BAGHDAD – Iraqi soldiers captured four terror suspects after their patrol was attacked in west Baghdad June 22, while Iraqi Army, Iraqi Police and Coalition forces teamed up to find weapons caches in northeast and central Baghdad.

Shortly before midnight, a patrol from the 4th Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division was attacked by terrorist gunfire. The Iraqi soldiers cordoned off the area, executed a search and captured four of the attackers. The unit took the men into custody for questioning.

At 9 a.m., Iraqi policemen teamed up with Coalition forces to conduct a cordon and search to capture car bomb makers and equipment. The joint force found 16 AK-47 assault rifles, three other guns, one protective mask, 25 assault rifle magazines and 417 rounds of ammunition.

"Every day, Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition forces are conducting more than 30 combined and independent operations," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Clifford Kent, Task Force Baghdad spokesperson. "Iraqi Forces are taking the lead in many of those operations and they're capturing terrorists, financiers, and bomb makers, plus they're finding weapons caches thanks in part to more citizens coming forward to provide information." (Task Force Baghdad Public Affairs)

## Suspected AIF doctor caught

MOSUL – Soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Iraqi Army Division conducted a raid against a known anti-Iraq force target June 20.

The soldiers located and captured the target, believed to be a physician treating AIF casualties, and then transported the detainee to the 1-24 U.S. Infantry Regiment's Detention Facility.

## Joint forces destroy weapons caches

BUHRITZ – Soldiers with 2nd Bri-

gade, 5th Iraqi Army Division and U.S. Task Force 1-10 conducted a cordon and search operation here June 20, designed to identify anti-Iraq forces operating in the area.

The soldiers located a large cache of weapons containing 120 125mm artillery rounds, 11 60mm rounds, 36 122mm rounds and 22 boxes of Dushka ammunition.

An Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal team destroyed most of the munitions. Some of the captured munitions were moved to a nearby forward operating base.

Elsewhere, Iraqi police officers discovered a weapons cache in Baghdad and transported the materials to the Al Bayaa Police Station June 20.

An Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal team was called in to conduct a controlled detonation of 21 projectiles, 10 rocket-propelled grenades, three RPG launchers, two mortar tubes, one black box, and three cylinders.

## Mini-bus bomb found and cleared

BAQUBAH – Iraqi Police officers fol-

lowing up on a report of a possible vehicle-borne improvised explosive device June 21 discovered a Toyota mini-bus filled with explosives. An Iraqi explosive ordnance disposal team neutralized the site and transported the ordnance to a nearby forward operating base. The VBIED consisted of eight 125mm artillery rounds and 10 pounds of C4 packed into a tire rim, with an initiator device described as an Audiovox radio.

## Iraqi forces conduct multiple raids

MOSUL – The Iraqi Army is continuing an aggressive presence here by conducting multiple raids June 24 in an effort to destabilize anti-Iraq forces operating in the area.

Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st Division Iraqi Intervention Force launched raids June 24 in targeted sectors. The IIF detained 10 suspected AIF members and captured two AK-47 automatic rifles, in addition to a variety of bomb-making materials. The detainees were transported to a nearby forward operating base to be processed.



### A 'Spear' bounty

Numerous caches have been recovered during Operation Spear, including scores of weapons and munitions, body armor and plates, and passports. Operation Spear is being conducted jointly by U.S. Marines and Iraqi Security Forces to destroy insurgent strong points in the city of Karbala.

Photos by U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Eric C. Ely

